

# SPECIAL AMATEUR SPORTING TOPICS DISCUSSED BY EXPERTS. OF RACQUET AND COURT SPORTS IN COLLEGES. WOMEN AND BICYCLING.

## Clarence Hobart, Champion, Writes of Tennis and Its Players.

John Howland was the surprise of last season. I doubt he had previously been very successful, but he had been considered only fairly strong in singles. In the tournament for the championship of New England, played at New Haven, he moved into the front rank of experts by beating both Larned and Chace, and then retiring Foote from the coveted position of champion. Subsequently he won singles at Orange, Bay Ridge, Seabright and Southampton, defeating so many strong players that in the official ranking only three men, Hovey, Larned and Chace, were placed ahead of him.

His best stroke is his backhand drive, which is if anything stronger than his forehand. In doubles he prefers to make all his first returns backhand, and in a tournament last Spring my partner and I discovered that we could cause him considerable inconvenience by forcing him to take our services forehanded. He lobs, smashes and volleys well, and places very cleverly. He is an all around player, with no conspicuous weaknesses, and his game seems to me to be modeled more closely on the lines of the English and Irish players

take to hockey so readily, as the two games require the same qualities. Mental and physical quickness, deftness of execution, wind and endurance are necessary in each. Larned, Chace, Wrenn and Slocum are not the least valuable members of the St. Nicholas Hockey Club.

Miss Juliet Atkinson, the present lady champion, is unexcelled among women in the art of volleying. She is of limited stature and it is not hard to lob over her head, but when she does get the ball on her racket she places it as few men can. There is said to be considerable rivalry between this lady and Miss Hellwig, and they are certainly very evenly matched. Miss Rosalie Moore, who gave such close battle to Miss Cahill three years ago, is not far behind.

The report of the Committee on Ranking, appointed by the president of the National Association, made the official ranking of the first ten men as follows: 1, Hovey; 2, Larned; 3, Chace; 4, Howland; 5, Wrenn; 6, Neal; 7, Hobart; 8, Stevens; 9, Foote; 10, Budlong. My private opinion is that a fairer list would be: 1, Hovey; 2, Larned; 3, Neal; 4, Chace; 5, Howland; 6, Wrenn; 7, Stevens; 8, Foote; 9, Millett; 10, Fischer. I can see no reason for including my name, as I only played in one Spring tournament, and both Millett and Fischer seem to me to have a far better claim than Bud-

## Harvard's Able Athletes---The University Baseball Outlook.

The writer has frequently observed that he did not see how Harvard could lose the intercollegiate track and field championship this year. To those who are watching the straws in order to determine the direction of the wind, the following records made in the Harvard class games on Saturday, the 11th, will prove significant:

120-Yard Hurdle---V. Monroe, '96, 10 3-5 seconds.

100-Yard Dash---L. M. Redpath, '98, 10 1-5 seconds.

One-Mile Walk---J. D. Phillips, '97, 7 minutes 21 2-5 seconds.

440-Yard Dash---W. H. Vincent, '97, 50 4-5 seconds.

Two-Mile Bicycle Race---C. D. Powers, '98, 5 minutes 27 seconds.

One-Mile Run---D. Grant, '99, 4 minutes 31 2-5 seconds.

220-Yard Hurdle Race---J. L. Bremed, 25 2-5 seconds.

220-Yard Dash---F. H. Bigelow, '98, 22 2-5 seconds.

880-Yard Dash---E. Hollister, '97, 1 minute 57 2-5 seconds.

Throwing Hammer---W. D. Hennen, '98, 105 feet 6 inches.

Running Broad Jump---J. G. Clark, '96, 22 feet 8 1-2 inches.

Running High Jump---W. E. Putnam, '96, 5 feet 9 1-2 inches.

Putting 16-Pound Shot---A. Lovering, '97, 35 feet 9 1-2 inches.

Pole Vault---A. B. Emmons, '98, 10 feet 1 1-2 inch.

Taken as a whole, these performances can hardly be duplicated by any college team in the country, and in a number of the events the men can and will do better when the occasion requires. Only two could be called poor---the shot put and the hammer throw---and Harvard will be strengthened in both of these events when she meets Pennsylvania and competes at Mott Haven, by the presence of E. H. Clarke, who by that time will have returned from the German trip. The pole vault, mile walk and high hurdles show

in wholesale fashion, there is much curl--been relieved from probation by the faculty only to see which would prove the more resourceful this Spring. A careful scrutiny of their work from the start convinces one that their five-game struggle in May and June is to be a hot one. Both are playing an unusually good quality of ball for this time of the year, and we may expect some very skillful exhibitions indeed when these two friendly rivals meet.

There are some remarkable things about the Yale and Princeton baseball teams this year. Each has four good pitchers of so nearly equal calibre that neither the Yale "healers" nor the Princeton "rooters" are justified in crowing over each other very much. In the catching department each team is pinning its hopes on one man, both of whom are scoundrels. Twothirds of the Mr. H. McK. Twombly will act as receiver for Yale's twirlers, and Titus, a Trenton boy, will do duty for the Tigers. Between the two there is not much to choose, for while Twombly is a safer backstop, he does not throw as well as Titus, nor is he as effective with the bat. Taken together, the Yale nine will probably field a bit the better, but Princeton thus far has shown superiority in hitting. Taken man for man, the writer's estimate would be as follows:

Letton (Y) and Kelly (P) are the first basemen; the former is decidedly more at home in fielding (his position), does it in prettier style and his average will be somewhat higher at the close of the season. Kelly, however, more than makes up for the difference by the fact of his being a better batter from Batstown, Bat County. McCandless, Hazen or De Saules (Y), and either Sankey, Smith or Wheeler (P), are booked for second base. They will never "set the Hudson River on fire" as fielders, and Smith is the best batter of the lot. Princeton's shortstop is Ward, '96, a cousin of Douglas Ward. He is perhaps the best all-around infielder on either team. Yale is depending upon two freshmen for a short stop, Bartlett is at present filling the bill and doing it well, despite a lame ankle. De Saules, who made his mark in Lawrenceville athletics last year, is also a man of great promise, but has lost some time by absence from college on account of a death in his family. Captain Quinby will take care of third base in approved style, and will also be one of the Yale's mainstays at

## Costumes for 1896---Many Novelties for Girls Who Wheel.

As bicycling grows in popularity among women, tailors and dressmakers have combined all their efforts to evolve costumes, both suitable and comfortable, for riders. That they have admirably succeeded, the happy, comfortable, well satisfied appearance of this season's bicycle women seems to prove. The question of how to dress for the wheel no longer seems an insoluble one. A year ago "to be or not to be," as regards the bloomer, seemed to be the uppermost puzzle in all feminine bicycledom. And now it seems to be satisfactorily decided that the bloomers will never become popular in this country. They are too ugly both on and off the wheel.

The modified divided skirt, which is so adroitly arranged that one can notice no singularity in its construction, is now universally adopted by women riders of all classes.

It is made with a tablier front effect, beneath which fall the two divided skirts in such a way that, when on the wheel, the rider presents the same appearance as if she wore the ordinary single skirt.

The great advantage of this skirt arrangement is that it permits a woman to ride the diamond frame without any inconvenience or ungraceful effect.

Costumers, both native and European, are all racking their brains to contribute their quota of comfort to the bicycle girl's get-up. Among the novelties is the

feeling of gratitude to womankind for the ardor with which they have espoused the wheel.

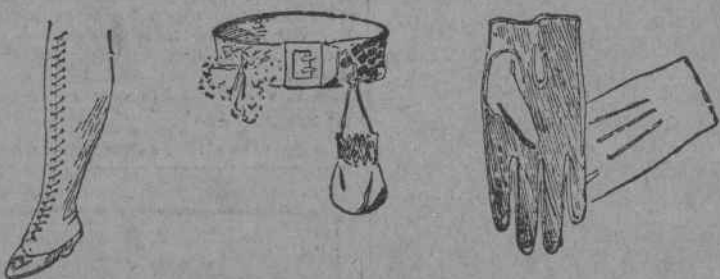
Something which must naturally appeal to married women is the new adjustable seat which can be fitted to any machine, in front of the rider, for the exclusive use and privilege of carrying babies. It is a rarely pretty sight to see a blue-eyed, rosy-checked tot, looking with wide-eyed wonder and delight all around, seated close to its mother as she flies pedally through the country.

## AN ODDITY OF A WATCH.

It Reads Backward, so as to Suit the Ways of People in Oriental Lands.

There is something new in watches. Application has been made in Washington for a patent on a kind of watch that reads backward. It is the invention of a watchmaker in Geneva, Switzerland. Ordinary Christians might have no use for it, but it is not intended for them. It is designed to be carried by Turks and other unbelieving dogs of Oriental countries, who are accustomed to read everything backward.

Hitherto these people have been obliged to content themselves with common, everyday watches, which read forward. This has mixed them up. When a Turk has in



## SOME ADJUNCTS OF THE BICYCLE GIRL.

A belt with hanging bag which will hold numberless things precious to the woman who rides a wheel; tan-colored gloves which solve a difficult problem.

bicycle glove, which is really a modification of a driving glove, the palm being of strong leather to withstand the wear and tear of the handles. It comes in all colors to match all costumes, and is a great boon, as riders know to their cost how little staying powers the ordinary glove possesses when in contact with the bar.

Another novelty recently introduced is a small leather bag intended to be suspended from the belt. Its mission is to hold change, tickets and all other little et cetera which men can stow away in some of their numerous pockets. Though perhaps convenient, it does not seem a very secure method of carrying small valuables, as, in the rapid motion of the wheel, these little attachments may often drop off.

The new bicycle boot has a great many recommendations. In the first place, as it reaches away up to the knee, it does away with the necessity of wearing gaiters and gives much more liberty and foot motion. It is usually made of tan leather, in all the different shades, and laces up the middle, to the knee, where greater security is given by means of a strap crossing from side to side.

Some of the new sweaters, put on the market by enterprising manufacturers, for wheelwomen, are pretty enough for any dressy occasion. Under arm and shoulder seams are the only ones used in their construction. They button invisibly on the right shoulder. The neck is finished with a high standing collar, which has happily supplanted the ugly and old-fashioned roll-over collar, so long an adjunct of the sweater. With this waist, the short, double-breasted sweater looks well.

Of course, that universal pet of the Summer girl, the ubiquitous short waist, will be well in evidence among women wheelers all through the warm weather. The prettiest effects in this cool garment can be obtained by wearing the regular stiff, starched front, with a mannish collar and tie. This arrangement, with a derby hat, makes a fetching wheel rig for a pretty woman.

An inventive manufacturer has put a novelty on the market which he hopes may appeal to the bicycle woman. It is a kind of half hoop arrangement, adjusted to the front of the skirt. It is supposed to keep it down and prevent it from shifting and blowing about. But it does not seem like a thing that will charm many riders, notwithstanding its recommendations.

Nor does the much advertised bicycle seat seem to be making strides into feminine favor. It savors too much of the common sense style of raiment to become popular, as women riders seem resolved not to sacrifice appearance at the altar of utility.

The sensible rider had better bear in mind the advisability of dressing the half simply---during the warm weather, at least when she goes a-wheeling. Gaudy and flashy effects (when long produced) are a delusion and a snare. After an hour's smart pedalling they hang in dismal mops over the face and give the smartest got-up woman a woefully bedraggled appearance. By far the best way of dressing the hair at all times for wheeling is to brush it quite severely off the forehead. This style is also much more in keeping with the mannish details of a true bicycle suit.

About late there seems to be no outstanding fashions for the bicycle girl. She invariably adopts what is most becoming to her, and there really is a large collection, all of which look well, to select from. There is the derby, the Alpine, the sailor, the Inverness, the Tam of Shanter and the ordinary English travelling cap.

Silk waists in all colors and designs will be popular during the Summer days. They are cool, durable and inexpensive, and for tourists more useful than the shirt waist, as they do not require to be laundered. Invitations for women's comfort are by no means confined to the efforts of costumers and tailors. The bicycle manufacturers and supply companies are also bestirring themselves in the interest of the fair sex. Besides the gleam of profits to lure them to greater efforts, is a natural

## CIGARETTE SUCKERS.

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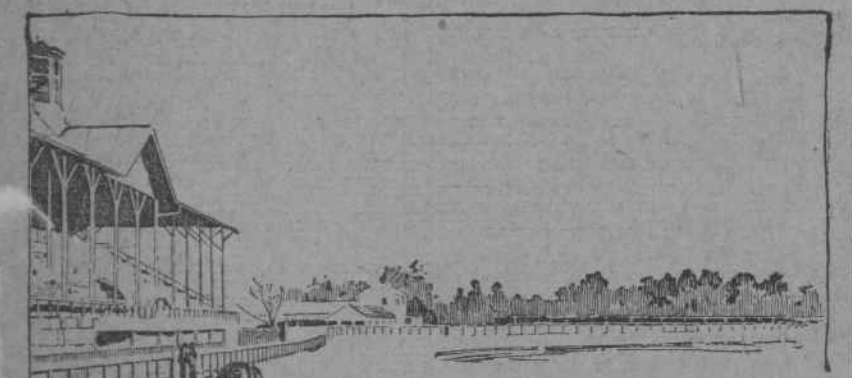
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long to recognition. Neal beat Chace in straight sets at Newport, and in my opinion deserves third place.

Having been a subscriber to London Pastime for several years, I have been interested in observing the enormous entries in the English tournaments. In the women's events they are particularly noteworthy, when contrasted with the slender entry lists which are the rule over here. At one meeting last year in England there were thirty-two entered in the ladies' singles, and at another between forty and fifty pairs in the mixed doubles.

## FOUNTAIN FERRY BICYCLE TRACK, LOUISVILLE, KY.

On this track nearly all the world's bicycle records have been made.

than is common with our men.

Like almost all Yale athletes, in every branch of sport, he is an earnest, aggressive, hard-working player, with the Yale do or die spirit plainly visible in his play. Knapp, Slocum, Huntington and Foote are others who have shown that Yale carries this grim determination to succeed into tennis as well as other games. He was one year a substitute on Yale's crew, and he looks almost too heavy and solid to move around rapidly, but for such a large man he is surprisingly active and quick on his feet. His play in doubles is still ahead of his singles, and he is outclassed by no one at that branch of the game.

Richard Stevens' name has since time immemorial been coupled in reports of tennis matches with such descriptive epitomes as "the indefatigable base-line player," "the persistent back court exponent" and "the advocate of the ground strokes." He has often declared his intention of learning to volley, and his occasional efforts in this line, when he is actually forced into it, show that he is not entirely unskilled in the art, but he has never seemed to acquire sufficient confidence in himself to make net play a part of his game.

His persistent practice has improved a little each year, but the lack of volleying has kept him just behind the first flight of our players, which, but for the absence of this important stroke, he would certainly have entered. For the last four years he has been really in a class by himself, behind six or seven men and well ahead of all the rest. He is such a consistent performer that he is rarely beaten by an inferior player, but, on the other hand, he rarely defeats one of the men ranked ahead of him.

Stevens does not play in many tournaments each Summer, confining himself to those on turf courts, where he is most at home. He plays more practice sets, however than any other player I know of, and is always more or less overtrained. I think, when the time comes to play at Newport, this would account for his comparatively poor showing there. He says that he prefers private to tournament playing, so he probably does not take his defeats much to heart, and his enthusiasm and love of the game for its own sake is truly admirable.

His greatest success was the winning of the Longwood tournament, in 1893, defeating, among others, both Wrenn and Chace, the challenge round against Hovey, he won the strongest game I have ever seen played, and he led Hovey in each set at four, although the latter finally gained victory in three vantage sets. From all units he did even better work in the Norwalk tournament, last August, which, ever, I did not have the pleasure of witnessing. His yearly improvement enables him to keep abreast of the times, but he does not make much progress against the old net and back court play of his seniors.

Howland writes: "I don't expect to find this Summer, except, perhaps, a two." Tennis players have been changing their minds, and there is a chance that later Howland may have a more extensive campaign. It is remarkable that tennis players



## THE BLOOMER GIRL'S CONQUEROR.

Bicycle experts announce that time has proven that bloomers will never become commonly popular. The divided skirt, as illustrated above, seems to be the costume which modest and sensible American women are likely to take up most enthusiastically.

fair performances, and the others are very good. Vincent, '97, has made up his studies, and bids fair to repeat his Mott Haven victory of last year. Hollister's half-mile is the best he has ever run, and, with Kilpatrick barred, he is the best man in sight for that distance. Clark's 22 minutes 8 1-2 seconds promises Sheldon, of Yale, a lively time, while Redpath and Bigelow show that they will not allow any lagging in the sprinting. Harvard will be weakened in the pole vault, in which she had an unusually good chance to win by the foolishness of Hoyt, '98. He applied for permission to go to Greece, but was refused by the faculty. Nevertheless, he went; but, while he won his event at Athens, it has cost him his standing in Harvard. He has now been dropped, and even though he were reinstated on his return, he would be properly and promptly protested by the other colleges.

On the showing of their games with the New York League team there is little to choose between the Yale and Princeton ball nines this season. Last year, it will be recalled, they were wonderfully well matched, and their two games, although Yale eventually won, were as closely fought and uncertain as to the outcome, as any in their history. As the class of '95 in each college depleted the ranks of both teams

the bat. He is in every way to be preferred to Gunster, although the latter is in charge of Princeton's third bat for the fourth season, having made the team in his freshman year. Princeton men are holding their breath and wondering if Gunster's amazing batting streak of last week is likely to become chronic. Until the New York League game, he had not hit much of anything, except the training table, but on that occasion, and when playing Lafayette, he developed such a propensity for slugging the ball that his friends are thinking of prescribing a sort of Keeley cure for the batting habit unless he resumes his normal condition pretty soon. Each team has one star outfielder, Captain Bradley (Y) and Harry Keator (P), who will undoubtedly be captain next year. There is little to choose between the two men, both cover lots of ground, are accurate catchers, strong throwers and heavy hitters. The other two places in the Princeton outfield will be filled by two of Princeton's pitchers who do not happen to be in the box, all of them are crack fielders and heavy batsmen. Yale will use one of her pitchers in the same way, either Trudeau or Greenway going out to left field when not pitching. The other Yale fielder will probably be Jeremiah, the football player. He is not so good at baseball as he is at football, however.

C. E. PATTERSON.

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